

Lancaster proposals ill-founded, say staff

by Ngalo Creguer

A Lancaster University proposal to close four departments and a regional study centre is an attempt to make life so unpleasant for academics that they will want to leave, claim staff.

The proposal contained in a report *Strategic Plan for the 1980s*, drawn up by a small development committee chaired by Professor Philip Reynolds, the vice-chancellor, is sharply criticized in several papers drawn up by affected staff.

The plan is that the departments of Russian, Central and South East European Studies, Arabic and Islamic Studies, European Studies and the Centre for North West Regional Studies be phased out within four years. A final decision will be made by an extraordinary meeting of senate in June 1981 and the vice-chancellor has agreed to address it.

The report makes the unprecedented proposal that students already offered firm places for Russian studies next year should be found places at other universities. Mr Trevor Phillips, president of the National Union of Students this week described this as a shabby move and said every pressure would be put on Lancaster to rescind the recommendation.

"Lancaster has panicked in terms of the financial situation and the University Grants Committee report on Russian Studies. They are quite premature and as a result, the business of wanting to shut people off to other universities will be an absolute disaster."

Some staff claim they were not consulted about the report and others are appalled that no costing was done. Mr John Gell, who was on the committee, says that the changes "suggest that the university wishes to move towards the nature and status of a College."

of Advanced Technology and since CATs enjoy lower prestige in the student market it is unlikely that this step will help to raise the quality of home intake."

He says that the proposed strategy does nothing to meet the financial problems either in timing or extent. "Unless the statement that it staff choose not to move or are unable to, direct savings would not be large) is to be understood as suggesting that the object... is to make life so unpleasant that they will choose to go elsewhere in the short term."

It says that there is a deliberate refusal to accept academic arguments in its review of the humanities and that it is unfair to concentrate on small departments as requested for staff have in some cases been systematically refused over the years.

The report is insular and calls into question the university's commitment to new ideas. The offer of staff redeployment is cynical and superficial, he says.

In its response the department of Central and South Eastern European Studies points out that the university labelled it a centre of excellence in 1976, and it is admired both in Britain and abroad. It is also unrealistic to assume that the unique Comenius library could be sustained in the absence of a department.

Staff at the regional study centre point out that the unit acts as an ambassador for the university. Mr Alan Wood of the Russian department said everyone is dismayed with the report. "We are determined to resist it so that the unit of expertise that has been developed can be maintained and we can continue to contribute to the intellectual life of the university."

Reading University has described a decision to close the Russian department as a "report recommending rejection of a UGC proposal to phase out the department has been referred to the faculty board, which meets next October."



Lord Leverhulme (left), the new chancellor of Liverpool University, at the university's dairy farm last week before his installation. With him are Professor J. O. L. King (right) who becomes president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons next month and Mr Michael Cureton, the farm manager. Lord Leverhulme, chairman of the farm's management committee, succeeds the late Sir Kenneth Wheare.

Scotland 'neglecting adults'

The Scottish education system is geared to initial preparation for the young, often leading to serious deficiencies in post-school education, says the Scottish Institute of Adult Education, in a reply to the Council for Tertiary Education in Scotland, set up to review Scotland's tertiary system.

"It is almost as though discussion and debate on the relationship between education and learning, the implications of accelerating economic and social change and the principles of continuing lifelong or recurrent education had never taken place," says the institute.

It says there should be policy decisions on basic, continuing and recurrent education and suggests that the council set up a working group on adult and recurrent education. It points out that the majority of the adult population left school with no qualifications and that adult literacy, adult education and community education agencies confirm that many people are unable to take advantage of further education and training opportunities as they lack basic skills such as literacy and numeracy.

The institute says there is considerable scope for co-operation between institutions. "It urges education institutions to make provision for older students with part-time courses during the day and evening individualized programmes."

Boroughs face £50m ILEA bill

by John O'Leary

Three London boroughs may have to raise an extra £50m to £60m from their rates to finance education services if the Inner London Education Authority is disbanded according to research published this week.

A report by Mr Tony Travers of North East London Polytechnic, details the cost to the various boroughs of operating within the ILEA and concludes that without a mechanism to spread costs in the capital there would be large variations in rate burden and levels of service.

The three boroughs which would suffer most include Wandsworth, one of the main advocates of abolition of the education service. Mr Travers estimates that, together with Greenwich and Lewisham, it would presently benefit from a system of resource equalization to the tune of more than £40m.

In an analysis of costs and benefits calculated by comparing contributions to the ILEA with the size of the school-age population, the report deduces that only four boroughs are "net losers" under the present arrangements. The biggest contributor is Westminster, by a most dramatic example of the way the present system works is the City of London, which pays more than £120m for a school-age population of about 160.

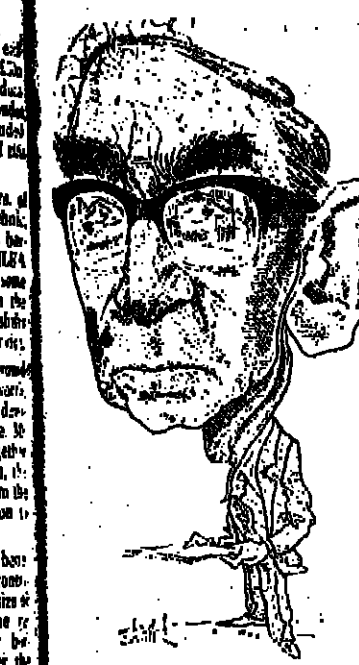
The other boroughs to lose are according to the report, Redbridge, Havering, Enfield and Haringey. The London Education Authority are Camden and Kensington and Chelsea.

Mr Travers says the only alternative to massive rate increases in some boroughs would be the introduction of a new scheme to allocate costs with similar effect to the present system. Government decision to direct authority matters, including the unprecedented procedure of certain authorities subsidizing others.

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London gets lion's share from UGC



Dr Parkes: pre-arranged grants

by Ngalo Creguer

About three-quarters of the money set aside by the Government to help the universities to student to full-cost fees for overseas students is to go to London. On the others are to receive any of the £5m allocation.

Full details of the University Grants Committee's suggested allocation are being kept secret while the institutions concerned justify their share. But £3.75m is certain to go to the University of London, with the largest share of the remainder being allocated to the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

In deciding how to allocate the fund to protect postgraduate work of particular importance, the University Grants Committee has tried to avoid giving universities the incentive to court deficits by helping them out as problems occur, or to give them all extra money irrespective of how many overseas students they attract.

They have told particular universities how much they would consider giving them to protect their postgraduate work if it is affected by a fall in overseas students.

But those not pre-selected at this stage will have no fall-back. The Universities on the list will be able to argue for a larger allocation but they are unlikely to be at London's expense since the UGC believes the greatest risks are to its specialist schools. Lord Annan, the vice-chancellor, said: "I am naturally delighted that the University's specially difficult situation has been recognized and I would wish to thank Mr Carlisle, Dr Rhodes Boyson and the Chairman of the UGC, Dr Parkes, for their help in this matter."

Despite having the next largest allocation, UMIST is one institution likely to put a case for more money from the fund, while other provincial universities may also feel some resentment at the size of London's windfall.

Mr Geoffrey Cusack, secretary of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, said it remained to be seen whether £5m was anything like enough to cope with the problem. Big questions remained both on this and on the wider issue of the recurrent grants announced this week by Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education.

Although the grants were much as expected, there was no guarantee that they would be sufficient to cope with pay settlements and general price increases, he said.

As Dr Parkes, chairman of the UGC, has told the universities by letter, the grant had to be worked out before it was known how many overseas students would eventually turn up before the series of dialogue interviews with the universities is concluded and when only one year's grant is known. He told them: "In these circumstances it has not been possible in the distribution of grant to do more than reflect, to individual universities, the Government's general intention as to the level of funding."

Universities should not assume that the grant figures have any relation with the three financial hypotheses put to them by the committee at the end of last year. No decisions will be made on this, the letter says, until autumn.

But universities are warned that it would be wise to exercise caution about new academic provision continued on back page

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Arbitration for lecturers

The chances that college lecturers would follow school teachers into arbitration on their 1980 pay claim ended this week when union leaders rejected a new management offer of 9 per cent—reduced to take account of the Clegg Commission's 1 per cent order.

But the major barrier to payment of the 9 per cent was the refusal of 17-25 per cent was rejected when, chairman of the union committee, Mr John Phillips, agreed to forward the new claim to the Secretary of State for Education, Mr Mark Carlisle.

According to payments to bring the lecturers' award in line with the school teachers' award, the 1979 payment will be paid from September.

Lecturers have held off going to arbitration but it now seems unlikely that they can continue to do so.

The 13 per cent offer to lecturers was conditional on Professor Clegg accepting his calculations. With a 1 per cent order, the offer was 4 per cent too high, it was said to be expected that a new offer, in line with the 9.2 per cent made to schoolteachers would follow.

Management worked out the offer to three places of decimal, to claw back the alleged overpayment. They say it is the exact equivalent of 13 per cent on the pay scale. Clegg now says he would be recommended.

Hard facts needed from industry, MPs are told

Manpower forecasting cannot provide a basis for planning in higher education, MPs heard this week. Experts on manpower studies, including a representative from the Department of Industry, were giving their view to the House of Commons select committee on education, science and arts, under its chairman, Oliver Thomas, MP.

The HE system was however in need of further guidance and this meant a more research and hard information about the future needs of industry, said the committee.

Mr Thomas said that the Department of Industry said that the manpower forecasts for particular years were not a feasible proposition and were unlikely to provide useful guidelines for detailed educational planning.

"On the side of industry," the general balance of the HE system, which has evolved during the period of rapid expansion followed by a period of contraction, has not been adjusted to the needs of industry."

Supporting the case for solid form of manpower guidance to HE, the Department said the UK for Manpower Studies working together with Science and Technology, and Industry and Commerce, was looking at ways in which HE could be related to longer term economic and industrial factors.

The unit study of the demand for graduates will be published next month.

month. The work was hampered because it came under three government departments: Mr A. J. Roban, chairman of the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, told the committee.

"We are very badly lacking the information we need particularly on the output of the public and maintained sector of HE," he said. An independent body must deal with the divisions within the civil service was badly needed.

variety of Lancaster, told MPs it was wrong to focus too much on pupils of people needed in various industries. The content of courses was also vital, he said. "Rather than saying we need so many engineers, we should be making sure that the people we are recruiting can mean differential calculus but have studied maths to the age of 18."

The importance of maths was also stressed by Mr D. C. Jowett, chairman of the standing conference of employers of graduates who were numerate, he said. "Numerate are a necessary part of the workforce, it is more likely to mean O-level."

Asked about the benefits of the "open tech" currently under discussion, Mr Jowett said that some of the open tech output might have difficulty in finding work because of their age.

California's Proposition Nine rejected

by Clive Cookson
North American Editor
California voters have called a halt to their tax revolt, based on a measure that would have cut state income tax by half and state revenues by about a quarter.

Option polls early in the year showed people in state colleges and universities by showing that Proposition Nine enjoyed a two-to-one margin.

Proposition 13, which limited the tax revolt in 1978. But opponents of the measure, including many university lecturers, persuaded the electorate not to risk serious damage to public services for the sake of a tax cut whose benefits would go mainly to the wealthiest Californians.

Because the prospect of doom used against Proposition 13 proved to be both counter-productive as a campaign tactic and false as a campaign tactic, Californian educators conducted a low-key campaign against Proposition Nine. But University of California officials were privately extremely worried about the effect of a 25 per cent budget cut.

Howard Jarvis, chief architect of Proposition 13 and Nine, also contributed to the defeat of his own initiative this time by alienating voters with his crude, bombastic manner.

Czech dissident stops classes

Dr Julius Tomin, the dissident Czech philosopher, has suspended his weekly unofficial seminars in Prague after almost three years.

Dr Kathleen Wilkes, fellow and tutor in philosophy at St Hilda's College, Oxford, who was expelled from Czechoslovakia last week, said this move could hardly be regarded as a victory for police harassment and brutality.

"The students now meet much more regularly and more informally. It means they are exchanging philosophical ideas all week and not just once a week, but in smaller groups. It is the Socratic way of philosophy now," she said yesterday.

Dr Wilkes is the third Oxford philosopher to be expelled from Czechoslovakia.

Sickness ballot for lecturers

The Association of University Teachers is to ballot its members on plans to safeguard their pensions if they have to stop work prematurely through ill health.

Under the scheme lecturers who retire on health grounds will be regarded as having the number of years required to give them the pension they would have expected had they continued to work until the normal retirement age.

Ballot papers are to be sent out in the next two weeks and if there is a majority in favour it will then be subject to negotiation.

AUT members will finance the scheme through contributions.

"The Government will not pay because of the repercussions throughout the public service," said AUT general secretary Mr Laurie Sapper.

Specialist retraining urged for part-time women teachers

Part-time women teachers should be offered retraining in specialist shortage subjects to increase their career prospects, a report published by the Equal Opportunities Commission has recommended.

The report, by Dr Ann Trough and Ms Gill Needham, of Lancaster University, looks at the role and status of part-time teachers and the problems for women teachers and schools caused by a reduction in part-time teaching.

"It highlights the career problems part-time teachers face with their low status, poor pay and general isolation from the overall teaching force," the report says.

The report, funded by the EOC and the Association of Masters and Misses, stresses the serious damage to women teachers' careers through retraining to the profession.

via the part-time route and the difficulties caused by deteriorating opportunities for full-time retraining to teaching.

It says that their career prospects could be greatly improved by retraining in shortage subjects such as maths, science, craft design or technology.

"The courses should be planned with family responsibilities in mind. This would not only create greater opportunities for part-time teachers but would also provide models with which schools could identify and improve their achievement in maths and science subjects," says the report.

It also recommends that in-service training should be made available to part-time teachers on the same terms as full-time staff. This would include access to degree courses and the payment of fees.

All-clear for policy study centre

by Charlotte Barry
Plans for a major new policy studies institute to analyse technical change, have been given the official go-ahead by the Government. This follows a delay of several weeks while the proposed Centre for Analysis of Technical Change, a joint venture by the Social Science and Science Research Council, sponsored by the Department of Education and Science to abandon it.

The most important task will be to help the two research councils and the organizing committee, for CATCH, which is headed by Sir Michael Swann, is the finding of

premises to house the project and the appointment of a director. Both issues are causing intense speculation in academic circles and are being followed closely by the media. In housing CATCH, the government is believed to include both Bath and Southampton universities, while the two research councils are believed to be considering premises at Oxford and Cambridge.

The most important factors in the site location and the extent of the major group at the chosen institution, which is already working in the field of policy studies and its application to technical change.

Some months ago, the research councils made it clear that although they would favour having premises in London where CATCH could have close contacts with both the civil service and industry, there has been the accompanying problem of the cost of premises in the capital city which suggested that they would consider applications from institutions which could provide free space.

Since then, Manchester University, the number of colleges within London University, as well as the science policy research unit at Sussex University, have shown interest.

NEXT WEEK

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W. W. Rostow on the third world
Poland's flying university
Oxford dons' aid for Czechs
Four pages on environmental studies books

OECD'S gloomy picture of university research

by Robin McKie
Science Correspondent
A "gloomy" picture of decline in university research throughout the world has been revealed in a special report prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The report, *The Function of Scientific Research in the University*, was discussed at a special meeting in Paris last week and was endorsed by senior government and educational officials from 24 participating countries. It is a study of the role of research in the university system, and its impact on the economy and society.

It says that the world is facing a "gloomy" picture of decline in university research throughout the world. The report says that the world is facing a "gloomy" picture of decline in university research throughout the world.

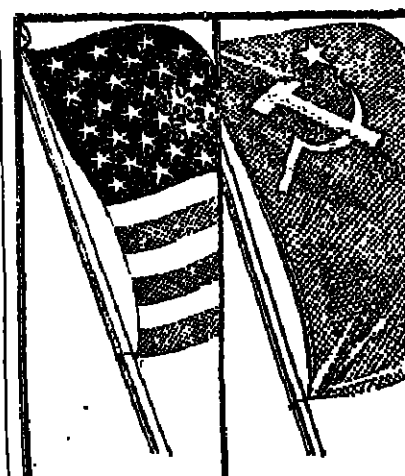
These trends reflect the problems of the world. The report says that the world is facing a "gloomy" picture of decline in university research throughout the world.

known to affect British universities, although it is surprising to learn the extent of the crisis in relatively prosperous and industrially active nations in the developed world.

One solution proposed in the OECD report suggests a lowering of the number of researchers to give them greater access to research equipment. However, to be pursued rationally, such a course would require identification of the most productive, or valuable, research scientists, while the rest are transferred into teaching, administration, or other institutions.

The report adds that "it is a considerable difficulty" to work within strict cash limits to provide more money for equipment, as universities are increasingly unable to provide adequate bases of research equipment from their normal operating budgets.

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The APT, the polys, and a 'hard flaming luck' story

Leaders of the Association of Polytechnic Teachers must have felt a double sense of disappointment as they mulled over the speech to their annual council by Education Under Secretary Dr Rhodes Boyson.

Despite the Minister's robust call for the polytechnics to maintain their distinctiveness, he failed to give them the demand for an end to local authority control.

And he also failed to give any indication of the Government's response to the demand for national recognition and an APT sent on the Burnham further education committee.

APT stands for a national body (though not the Oakes model) to coordinate higher education between the universities, polytechnics and some of the colleges offering a significant amount of advanced further education.

"This is the only way to minimize the damage of the cuts and to optimize the use of rare resources," immediate past chairman Mr Ray Powell said in his report to council.

But Dr Boyson argued firmly that "for the moment" it was most appropriate for the polytechnics to remain in the mainstream sector.

"First, there is the undoubted strength of the local authority commitment to maintain its status in higher education. Added to this is my own unease, shared by many of my colleagues in Government, at any prospect of overcentralizing control of a service, which is currently not centrally administered."

While local control might occasionally be thought wrong for a service responding to national needs, it was undeniable that the polytechnics had achieved their present "considerable" status on a basis of local authority support.

The authorities had not created the polytechnics but developed them from existing institutions which, he said, continued to reflect the needs of the community in which they were sited.

In APT's eyes this was a sin

by commission, the second, perhaps major disappointment, was Dr Boyson's failure to refer to, let alone announce the final decision on, the question of the association's national recognition.

APT leaders have been fully expecting an announcement from the new Conservative Government of a seat on the Burnham further education committee. But while consultations are continuing, the signs are now acknowledged not to be hopeful, with the local authority associations both unlikely soon to reach their opposition.

However, Mr Powell expressed his view that the outcome of the plea for recognition would be favourable.

"Once this has been achieved I believe the local authorities will grant local recognition automatically," he said.

He admitted the varying degrees of recognition granted locally at about twelve polytechnics was far from a satisfactory conclusion for the association, which claims 3,000 members.

A completely satisfactory conclusion to the whole question will only be achieved when the chicken and egg cycle has been broken (at the moment the egg is merely cracked), he said.

"The Secretary of State has the power to do just that. All he needs now is the courage to make what is clearly the just decision."

The APT believes that the impact of the cuts imposed by local authorities coupled with what it regards as a wholly unsatisfactory Clegg award have underlined the need for a separate voice for the polytechnics.

The association calculates that after Clegg a polytechnic teacher at the top of the senior lecturer scale is about £2,000 a year worse off than a university lecturer similarly placed at the top of the career grade.

A senior lecturer in a polytechnic teaching 100 per cent can earn an identical salary to a senior lecturer in a further education college teaching no higher than O level, APT's new chairman,

Mrs Heather Egging, complained. His predecessor was even more specific. The Houghton principle announced the final decision on, the question of the association's national recognition.

It is essential that a separate negotiating body for the salaries of polytechnic teachers is established so that proper salary levels according to the Houghton principle can be offered which will continue to attract people into the polytechnics without having to link those salaries to those of lecturers in flower arranging," Mr Powell said.

Dr Boyson argued resolutely that the Government was firmly opposed to a tendency for the universities and polytechnics increasingly to resemble one another.

The local authority connexion was one aspect of the polytechnics' distinctiveness, he said. It was one of their major strengths, finding expression in the extent of autonomy and part time work, particularly at technician level.

The value of the polytechnics was also based on their close links with local industry and commerce, and their ability to respond to emerging needs, and their role in applied research.

Polytechnic graduates should "self-consciously" distinguish themselves from university graduates, not through academic achievement but by differences in attitude and approach.

The polytechnic graduate should show a propensity and aptitude for defining industrial and commercial problems and designing practical ways of tackling and solving them."

Dr Boyson struck another chord of sympathy with wholehearted support for the trend towards vocational education, indicating what he saw as an increasingly positive attitude among young people towards wealth-creating careers.

Less popular was his message to those polytechnics complaining about the injustices of post-capping. He admitted it had been rough and ready, but 1980-81 was



Dr Boyson: no lover of sociology.

effectively a settled issue—"hard flaming luck".

The Stephen Jones group was hard at work examining a unit cost-based replacement for the crude formula used to cap the pool.

He told the council the new system could mean future sharing out of the pool "in accordance with educational judgments on the desirable scale of provision made by individual authorities—and the acceptable relative costs of making that provision."

The Minister's forthright attitude to the sort of courses that should be offered in the new financial and economic climate was also certain to find favour with the APT.

With a membership heavily concentrated in the less vociferous, vocally-oriented science and engineering departments, many APT members are certain to sympathize strongly with Dr Boyson's widely-reported antipathy for—among others—sociology.

His hinted that the planned extension of the circular 1/80 controls which enhanced the power of the regional advisory committees and HM Inspectorate would be pretty tough.

Dr Boyson told the APT that the

number of students studying in the polytechnics was unlikely to be much above its present level in the early 1980s.

"The result is that new developments which could be accommodated relatively easily during the period of growth must now take place in a state of little change, so that new resources are launched at the expense of aspects of existing provision."

He compared the necessary appraisal this called for with the Great Debate which had concentrated on primary and secondary education.

"We have tried to keep the debate open—one reason why we turned down Oakes. The signs are that generally this public response is being conducted sensibly. But there is still some evidence of the sort of reflex response which makes no real contribution to the main debate," he complained.

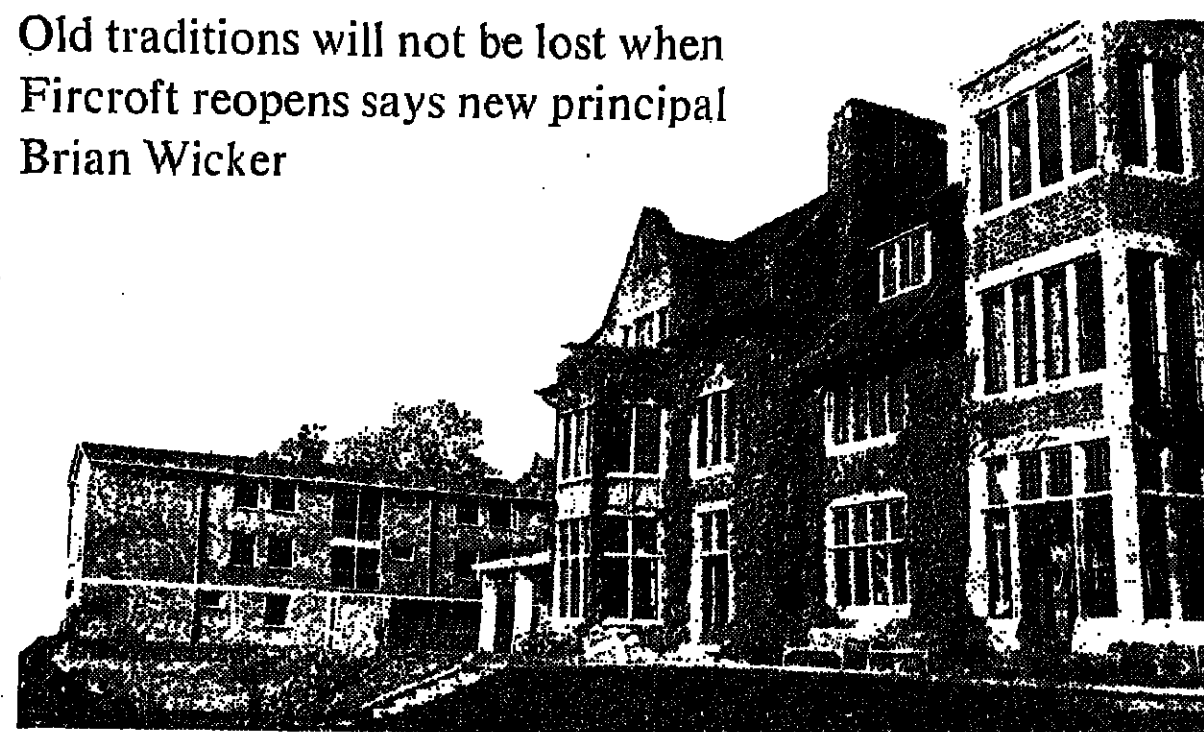
He rejected repeated accusations that the Government was shunning the Robbins principle and suggested that Ministers had deliberately avoided moving rapidly towards an all-in solution to all the complex problems in higher education.

Open University programmes June 7 to June 13

Saturday June 7

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Old traditions will not be lost when
Fircroft reopens says new principal
Brian Wicker



Rebuilding Jerusalem

The Fircroft College that will be opening its doors to mature-age students in September, 1980, after so lamentable a gap of years, will be sticking to its old last in a number of ways. Its job will remain "second-chance" education, in "liberal studies", on a one-year residential basis. The courses will still be free of the pre-packaging that inevitably goes with being tied to a syllabus for a college diploma, university entrance requirement, or other piece of paper. As far as possible within the narrow limits of the college's academic resources, teaching will attempt to be tailored to personal needs.

But Fircroft was always more than an academic institution. It was special, even among the long-term residential colleges for its emphasis on the shared community-life of its members. Here, perhaps, is one of its problems. Should the community-life concentrate on nurturing the individual possibilities of the members, or should it be devoted to training people who want to be in the words of Blake which are inscribed over the principal's fireplace—to build Jerusalem?

I take it for granted that it is one job of Fircroft to make as smooth as possible the pathways to higher education, professional training or other kinds of outside opportunity for those who want them. I also take it for granted that, as one college on the larger campus of Selby Oak Colleges, and as an "institution" during the midday of an industrial conurbation, it should give members many chances to look outwards and to involve themselves in the community.

But the question remains, and it seems many of the decisions that will have to be made, how far a regime that included such humdrum duties as helping in the garden or the kitchen be re-established in the 1980s? How far should the college favour applicants who are socially or politically "active" over others who may be opposites? These are so far-unresolved questions that I mean, in the last analysis, on what it means to be a college of liberal studies for mature-age people at the present time.

One might begin by noting that there is something paradoxical about "liberal studies" for working men and women. Liberal education, after all, originally meant education for those who did not have to toil at that the country gentlemen used to call "servile work". It was education for gentlemen, as Newman's celebrated lectures on the subject make clear.

Hence, as Arnold saw, it was designed to give the skills you needed, not to give the intellect to criticism, rather than the one you need to create, a civilization. Thus the man of liberal culture saw life from the angle of vision provided by the writing desk, the armchair, or the library, not that of the furnace or the work-bench.

Nevertheless, there has always been another tradition of education, and the liberal one—though it has not had much airing in modern educational debate. This is the tradition of making, not criticizing; of doing, not of thinking; of which the fundamental activity to which

the educated person directs his attention. This tradition sees life from the point of view of the ploughman or the craftsman or the practising artist.

When Samuel Smiles proclaimed that "in the school of labour is taught the best practical wisdom" he was echoing, not just distorting, the Benedictine tradition of *laborare est orare* and the Christian valuation of ordinary skills from the carpenter of Christ to the mason of Chartres: the tradition which made some kind of bond between Marx and William Morris, or even between Pope John XXIII and Nikita Khrushchev. The question is whether there is a place for this alternative tradition in a modern college of liberal studies for working people.

In adult educational terms (and here I want to distinguish education from mere training) the "servile" activities tend nowadays to be relegated to the "leisure" world: the woodwork class, the do-it-yourself movement. Whereas what like to think of as the nation's practical needs are skills which once belonged to the gentlemanly class: more and better literacy and mathematics, more critical and cultured scientists, inventors and entrepreneurs.

Thus the true meanings of both the "liberal" and the "labour" based concepts of education have been distorted and diluted. It is possible for a college like Fircroft to act as a place where the genuine meanings of both traditions cross and confront each other? I would hope so.

Of course, a year out from work in a leisurely environment, away from the pressures and pleasures of a regime that included such humdrum duties as helping in the garden or the kitchen be re-established in the 1980s? How far should the college favour applicants who are socially or politically "active" over others who may be opposites? These are so far-unresolved questions that I mean, in the last analysis, on what it means to be a college of liberal studies for mature-age people at the present time.

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definition of what counts as useful toil; and this is far from simple to formulate. It is all too easy for us, as it was for Samuel Smiles, to exploit the ambiguities of the word "industry" in order to impose premature definitions (e.g. the slide from industry as the virtue of industriousness, to the virtues of, says the Confederation of British Industry).

But even when an adequate account has been given, it is still not enough. We still need to add a third, and much undervalued element into the educational mix. In addition to creating a productive cross-fertilization between the values of man the "maker" and man the "critic" of a civilization, i.e. between the sphere of labour and of leisure, there is also the sphere of man the "consumer" or as I would prefer to call him, man, the "patron" of civilization.

Without the "consumer" there can be no useful toil, no productive labour. Perhaps one of the reasons why so little has been heard of the "consumer" in the economic equation, or at least so little say in it has been allowed to enter into our political calculations, is that it has little or no place in the educational thinking of either the "liberal" or the "labour" based traditions. But surely an education in any genuinely participative democracy must include this aspect of existence?

Possibly a change of terminology would help. Today, only big anonymous corporations, like the BBC or the Arts Council, are able to be patrons: the rest of us are just consumers. (Hotels and posh shops may call us their "patrons", but this is just snobbery.) But the point is that, in a democracy, we all have the power of patronage, and education should help us to use it.

The patron, after all, is literally a kind of pro-creator, who enters decisively and with authority into the social process, indeed into the market place, not only because of his taste (good or bad) and his money, but because of his power. In the past (or so we have been led to think) patronage was truly possible only to an elite, who were able to select and buy what artists and craftsmen had to offer.

In a modern society we all have this power, taste and money to some degree; but we are mostly unconscious of it. The consumer, the "patron", is the sleeping giant of our world. If he could be woken up, then perhaps once again man the "maker" and man the "critic" as one of the three essential pillars of a civilised society.

Perhaps it can be one of the jobs of a college like Fircroft, to include in its political, historical, literary and economic studies, and of the place of working people in it, the view from the check-out and the hospital bed, and all the other places where man the "consumer" or "patron" finds himself, to put alongside the views from the work-bench and the armchair.

The author is the new principal of Fircroft College, Birmingham.

Cutting into the muscle of university research

The contract system is inefficient and unsatisfactory, argues Brian Salter

As the full effect of the cuts in higher education expenditure begin to be felt, universities are very rapidly having to re-examine internal planning procedures in an attempt to maximize their use of the resources they still have (difficult though this is with the Government's distinctly unhelpful stance on cash limits).

But one field in which this is not being done is in contract research that area of the universities' activity not funded by the UGC but by a complex of external funding agencies. Here the university planners have yet to have an effect—with the result that the universities combine with croaking university structures to produce considerable research inefficiency. At the same time those academics employed as full-time researchers on short-term contracts are in a vulnerable group in the academic community: they rarely have any guarantee of continuous employment and frequently are obliged to waive their legal rights to redundancy and unfair dismissal claims.

In 1977-78 contract research staff constituted 19 per cent of all academic staff employed in universities (University Grants Committee figures)—by "contract research" is meant, in the words of the UGC, "staff partly financed or not financed by universities from general funds, i.e. supported by research grants etc.". These externally obtained research grants form 11 per cent of total university income, the remainder being wholly UGC funds and means.

The basic problem is that universities compete with each other for research funds in an essentially laissez-faire market for research funding. There is little agreement among the funding agencies—Government departments, research councils, industry, private foundations—as to what the application procedures should consist of, what requirements they should have of the host institutions and what common research priorities should be adopted.

So as rivals for scarce resources, the universities do not feel able to unite to establish guidelines within which the funders must operate. Nor does the UGC exercise its influence on the institutions which attempt to do so, a recommendation in 1974 that universities should charge funding agencies 38 per cent overheads on research projects, was judiciously ignored. The result is that the universities, who are the money market dominate those who wish to consume its products.

The diversity of external funding sources for research is reflected in the diversity of arrangements within universities for organizing, or not organizing, the conducting of research. The UGC, for instance, has made it a condition of its grants that universities should incorporate the one fifth of academic staff for whom research is a full-time occupation.

Centres, units, institutes have been created with varying degrees of integration with departments or faculties. Rarely has a conscious effort been made to define how the relationship between teaching and research should operate. In any event, the majority of research staff remain uneasily and marginally attached to the traditional departmental teaching structures.

The episodic nature of research funding coupled with the absence of any protection by the employing institution, the university, means that the position of research staff is inherently insecure. Each contract obtained by a researcher may well be his last and because economic cost is often one of the main criteria applied by the employer, the university, the prospects of employment increase as the researcher gets older.

So it is not infrequently the case that a researcher who has been employed on a series of contracts with a university finds himself, in his early forties, considered too expensive to employ, and his research skills, his publications, stable and service to

the institution, is summarily signed to the dole queue.

The marginality of research is emphasized, gallingly so, by the fact that they do not have a right of status with teaching staff, is manifested in the absence of rights normally enjoyed by teaching staff: they are frequently denied committee membership and not have access to internal university research funds, and are not allowed to initiate and be responsible for research projects.

The absence of these rights, at the peripheral status to which contract researchers are reduced, is indicative of the universities' failure to recognize and deal with the problems faced by what is undoubtedly a substantial group within the academic community. The net effect is, in the 1978 annual report of the Nuffield Foundation emphasized, low morale among the research community; insecurity and isolation are a human cost of the universities' failure to adjust their operations to include an explicit and organic research function. The individual human cost is paralleled by the loss of the research function.

The efficiency of research is also because the contract system, because the nature of the contract of employment fragments the research effort, produces a rapid turnover of staff, does not provide an explicit period of research training, disperses rather than hoards expertise, and undermines job satisfaction. It is a situation which impedes the professionalization of research activity.

Secondly, university teaching arrangements exist to ensure, where possible, knowledge progression in the course of research, and by external agencies is channelled into the teaching process. Far too often, contract researchers are regarded by universities as a convenient pool of teaching labour to be used to fill gaps in the curriculum. This is a source of fresh facts and ideas, in addition, research staff are generally expected to do such teaching without pay, part of their obligations is a variety which displays no obligation towards them.

Thus, in the last analysis, the academic community suffers because one fifth of its members are given an inferior and marginal status. They are encouraged to be uncommitted, to, and uncommitted with, a community which defines itself as peripheral; it is a sad but not a potential.

Quite how long the irrational and inefficient organization of contract research in higher education will continue is difficult to say. What happened in the United States was that research institutes were set up at the universities and the money market because universities did not change their anarchic ways fast enough.

The same thing could happen here unless universities realize that full-time research and research staff have organizational requirements not at present being met. What is keeping universities after to terms of their appeal to funding agencies at present is economic expediency: universities are currently cheaper than independent organizations because they pay their staff less and absorb part of the research cost (space, heating, lighting, etc.) into the UGC-funded part of their operation.

However, as the retreating tide of UGC funds is diminished away it will be increasingly necessary for research to be funded at its own economic cost, the universities' advantage of carrying overheads and more research applications will be judged according to other criteria.

If, at this point, universities realize that their organizations are not adapted to include that research function, and the universities, the staff, consistently and consciously away from the contract system, it may well be too late.

The author is a research fellow in education at the University of Sussex.

Paul Thomas looks at how anarchist theory helped shape Karl Marx's work

Alexander Herzen once observed that all too frequently the spirit of brotherhood for which the revolutionary left is supposed to stand is expressed in the spirit of Cain and Abel.

Our own century is rather fuller than Herzen's of examples of Marxist anarchist mistrust and fratricide. Among the most obvious is the suppression of the Kronstadt rebellion by the Red Army in 1921, communist troops taking up arms not against the fascists outside the gates but against the anarchist militia in the streets of Barcelona in 1936 and (on the eve of Eurocommunism) the chilling doctress and *hauteur* displayed by the functionaries of the French Communist Party to the radical uprising that was taking place outside the joyless bureaux, in the streets of Paris, May 1968 is no more melancholy epilogue to a sorry story of fratricide. There is no reason to suppose that the last chapter in this unwelcome work of bloodletting, betrayal and repression has yet been written.

But what of those chapters that have? In reading them we need to exercise caution. The most obvious feature of Marxist-anarchist fratricide is that anarchists seem to play the role of Cain, Marxists, the role of Abel. Yet this feature, if we take it as a point d'appui, can be misleading. There are risks involved in imposing it retroactively, as a pattern which the facts must be forced to fit.

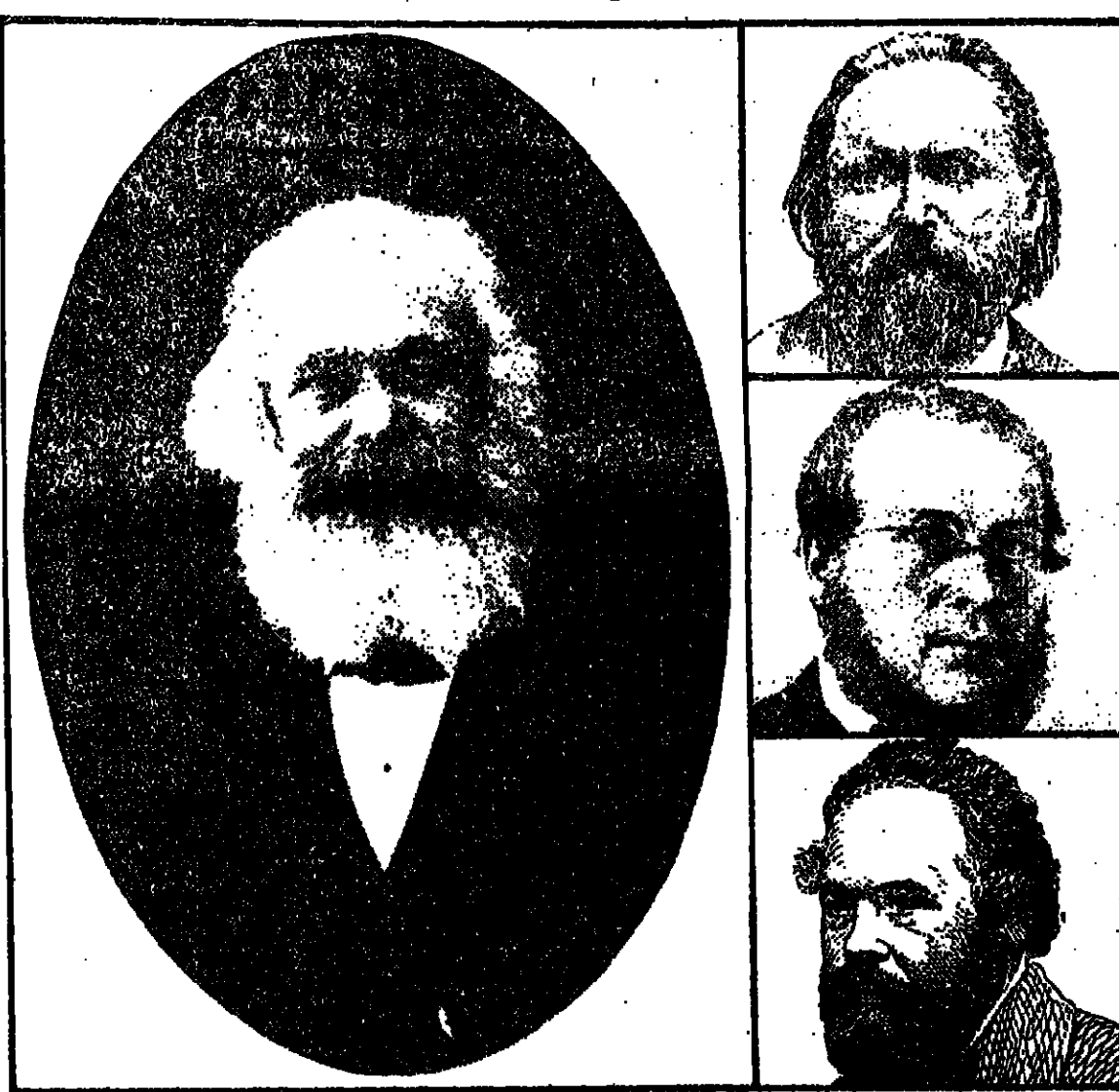
It is all too easy to jump to the conclusion that Proudhon's and Bakunin's obsessively voiced protestations about Marx's "authoritarian socialism" fit the pattern and must therefore have had some claim to accuracy when they were originally uttered. Yet there is a good reason to apply any such pattern, like a mould, to Marx's career as a revolutionary. To the contrary, to suppose that in the light of subsequent events anarchists' complaints about Marx's authoritarian tendencies must have been justified is to give in to an historicist prejudice.

After all, few people outside the ranks of the uncommitted would today directly and immediately link Bakunin's attacks on Marx with the Marxists' writings, though the Marxists were the logical outcome of the very possible expression of the logic of the latter.

Yet to accept at their face value Proudhon's and Bakunin's far from disinterested criticisms about Marx's political authoritarianism is to effect a no less unidirectional and unsatisfactory linkage. Even to suppose that their complaints embodied some predictive force is to effect to attribute to Proudhon, Bakunin and others the gift of second sight. It is to advance the dubious claim that in the light of later Marxist excesses, these anarchists were in some way more right than they could possibly have been. It may of course be rather a point of no return in Marxist-anarchist relations was reached when in 1872 Marx and Engels were given to kill off the International Congress of the Hague; but we ought to be able to consider this issue, which is so central to the complicated one, without resorting to the post hoc erga propter hoc fallacy. The question whether the outcome of subsequent Marxist confrontations was "in the light of Marx's original encounter with anarchism" is not one that admits of being settled a priori. It may be adjudicated only if we take a long hard look, with an unjaundiced eye as we can face, on these first encounters themselves.

To do so is to become aware of a significant difference between Marx's disputes with the anarchists encountered and subsequent confrontations; a difference in directionality. Later Marxist complaints about Bakunin's authoritarianism all express a position of the superior power of the Marxists. These complaints came to the fore in the hands of those who had the upper hand, who enjoyed the advantage of occupying the commanding heights. But Marx himself occupied no such lofty position.

Unlike many other later Marxists, he would neither afford to be arrogant nor to play the power game. He was, in fact, a revolutionary who was eventually relinquished to "the gnawing criticism of the



Above: Karl Marx (1818-1883), founder of the First International. Right, top to bottom: Alexander Herzen (1812-1870), Russian writer and political agitator; J. J. Proudhon (1809-1865), French socialist; Mikhail Bakunin (1814-1876), Russian anarchist.

Brotherly betrayals on the way to the barricade

indeed as part of it, from being the preserve of isolated theoreticians like Max Stirner into an expansive revolutionary movement propelled by such examples of revolt as Mikhail Bakunin.

The point here is not simply that during Marx's lifetime Marxism and anarchism grew up alongside each other, in such a way that each was concerned from the beginning to challenge the credentials of the other. The point is also that neither set of credentials remained unchanged.

Marxism and anarchism each started life as a doctrine and developed into a mass revolutionary movement. Neither was the other forgotten is that anarchism did so rather more quickly and dramatically than Marxism. This helps explain why Marx could hardly have been expected to remain aloof from, or indifferent to, the shift in the character of anarchism that he witnessed. It helps to explain why he attacked every anarchist with whom he came into theoretical or practical contact; and why the shift in the character of anarchism became practical contact.

The shift in the character of Marx's and anarchist expostulations reflects the shift in the nature of anarchism itself. The first such expostulation, "Saint Max", is the longest single section in, and the centre of the argument of, so basic an early text as *The German Ideology*. "Saint Max" takes the form of an early text as *The German Ideology*. "Saint Max" takes the form of an early text as *The German Ideology*.

no such fate befell *The Poverty of Philosophy*, a project which was designed, from the beginning for maximum publicity. Marx wrote it in French and had it published in Paris as well as Brussels (where he was living) in an attempt to destroy Proudhon's already considerable reputation once and for all.

Why Marx thought it necessary and important to make this attempt and why the attempt so ignominiously misfired, as he had subsequent frequent cause to regret, Proudhon was considerably better known than Marx at the time. The book that had occasioned Marx's counterblast, Proudhon's *Système des contradictions économiques, ou philosophie de la misère*, enjoyed considerable success. It sold well and was translated, in short order, into German. *The Poverty of Philosophy*, on the contrary, sold far fewer copies and after Marx's death, Proudhon's reputation remained unimpaired. He never felt the need to reply publicly to Marx's attack. Proudhon's "mutualism" as a body of thought, and as a loose and inchoate movement, succeeded in taking root in France as though nothing had happened. Its resilience, as Annie Kriegel and others have noted, helps explain the relative slowness of Marxism's penetration of the French labour movement, and Proudhonism more immediately returned to haunt Marx, even after Proudhon's death, during the years of the First International.

The persistence of Proudhonism, even though it was almost entirely restricted within French boundaries, should remind us that at no point during Marx's lifetime can we speak of "Marxism" as an unchallengeable orthodoxy. It was, rather, a doctrine, in method and (history) a movement that at all times needed to defend itself against, as well as attack, rivals. Even though Proudhonism played up only to do down just as briefly during the earliest years of the International, its

members were fanned all too vigorously into all too precipitately beginning for maximum publicity. Marx wrote it in French and had it published in Paris as well as Brussels (where he was living) in an attempt to destroy Proudhon's already considerable reputation once and for all.

It is for these reasons that the history and theory of Marx's successive disputes with, and attacks upon, his anarchist contemporaries and successors have seemed worth bringing out into the open. They have ill-deserved their premature burial. At the level of doctrine, the marked continuity among Marx's various anti-anarchist expostulations and disputes is of considerable interest. It helps to show the continuing hold of various Hegelian categories on Marx's thought (Stirner, Proudhon and Bakunin all entertained various "Hegelian" pretensions, which Marx attacked); and it points to two radically different kinds of hostility to the bourgeois state, kinds which finally prove to be irreducible one to the other and which are likely to remain utterly irreconcilable.

In these circumstances, properly proletarian adherence to the International in the more industrialized parts of Europe was the only possible basis on which Marxism might arise; yet even here Marx's efforts were challenged and threatened by English reformist trade unionists, by French Blanquists, by the Belgian followers of the single-minded César de Paepe, and by the long German refusal to have much to do with the International at all. Membership of the International in its more industrialized constituency was in any case declining by 1871, and contracted even more dramatically in the wake of the suppression of the Paris Commune. The effects of the ensuing isolation and its repressive aftermath, which were disastrous for the workers' movement, were in no way restricted to France. For in the "red scare" atmosphere, which so quickly came to prevail, the international was quite reasonably, and quite wrongly, believed to have maimed the Communists.

As a result of this unprecedented amount of opposition, Marx, for the first time in his life, became a fugitive (and vilified) and was himself not above associating the Inter-

national retrospectively with the Commune by issuing his philippic, *The Civil War in France*, with the official imprimatur of the International's General Council. This attribution had the effect of splitting an already weakened and divided organization still further, and of setting the stage for its demise the following year at The Hague.

Very little of the burgeoning present-day literature about Marx or of the flourishing but lesser literature about anarchism deals directly (or justly) with Marx's disputes with his anarchist contemporaries, disputes which are of considerable importance and interest. To enter into them involves us with, and requires us to recognize, Marx not just in his capacity as a theorist who contributed for various reasons have endured, but also as a revolutionary politician. Most current writing has the untoward effect of emphasizing Marx's written works, his intellectual legacy, as opposed to, and at the expense of, any consideration of Marx's work as a revolutionary activist, which is too often dismissed as having been intermittent and ultimately inconclusive. Marx's political activities have been otherwise presented, but for the most part only as a kind of backdrop in front of which his literary production takes place.

In either case Marx's life—what Marx did—must be treated separately. The former becomes a kind of trampoline for the intellectual gymnastics of the latter, about which comfortable academic judgments can and do pass, even the finer points of textual technique may safely proceed. Something is left out. If Marx, as Engels said at his graveside, was "first and foremost a revolutionist", we should not separate his theoretical activity, his works from his work, in so absolute and untoward a manner.

It is unlikely that Marx regarded himself as the dispenser of timeless theoretical truths for which a recalcitrant world would be ready. Indeed, it is, in large measure, because Marx practiced what he preached that Marxism has come to embody a particular kind of symbiosis of the theoretical and the practical, the search for the laws of theory and praxis, which has proved to be so influential from his time down to our own. What is too often forgotten is that anarchism provided Marx's revolutionary theory and his revolutionary practice with an original antithesis and counterpoint.

The author is an assistant professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley, and is author of *Karl Marx and the Anarchists* published by the University of California Press last month.

BOOKS

The limitations of the Movement

The Movement: English poetry and fiction of the 1950s
by Blake Morrison
Oxford University Press, £8.50
ISBN 0 19 212210 X

by David Lodge

The terms that label periods in literary history or that group together writers of a particular time deemed to have had certain aims in common—terms such as Augustan, Romantic, Decadent, Imagist, and so on—are necessarily imprecise, inevitably distorting, and always open to challenge (often by the very writers to whom they are applied). But criticism cannot do without such concepts, since it is only by means of them that the bewildering mass of literary data can be reduced to an intelligible order: the order of literary history. One might go further and say that the institution of literature itself depends for its health on the currency of these descriptive terms. If the English literary scene in the last decade had seemed to many observers rather dull, part of the reason may have been the failure of the good writers we have to find common ground between themselves, or the failure of criticism to make them collectively visible. As Henry James memorably said, "Art lives upon discussion, upon experiment, upon curiosity, upon variety of attempt, upon the exchange of views and the comparison of standpoints"; but such debate is likely to be most productive when the issues are sharply focused by a dominant school or movement.

Arguably, the last literary movement to manifest itself in England was that which emerged in the 1950s and was called simply "The Movement". In the 1950s, to be sure, there was a general cultural revolution—the "countercultural" mix of drugs, rock music, flower-power hippies, happenings and radical politics—which had its effect on writing while being itself essentially non-literary in orientation; and there have been since the 1950s small groups or groupings of writers, such as the poetry "Group" presided over by Geoffrey Hill, the Smith and Philip Hobsbaum, or the Liverpool poets, or today's young political playwrights, Howard Brenton, David Hare and Trevor Griffiths. But the mid-1950s was the last time when a considerable number of like-minded writers joined forces, or were seen to be doing so (which is almost the same thing in literary politics), to give a decisive new direction to British writing—to found, in the jargon of contemporary French criticism, a new écriture. That phenomenon is the subject of a very thorough historical

and critical study by Blake Morrison.

What was the Movement, and who was in it? It was effectively launched in 1954 by the literary editor of the *Spectator*, J. D. Scott, who, with the conscious motive of cutting attention to his paper, wrote a provocative, controversial, trend-spotting editorial entitled "In The Movement", which was published (anonymously) in the issue of October 1. In this article Scott discussed the group of young poets already identified by another *Spectator* writer, Anthony Hardy, as having certain qualities in common—academicism, anti-romanticism, hard-headed common sense—which distinguished them from the Modernist tradition, and he suggested that the same literary values were making themselves felt in prose fiction with the publication of lively first novels by two of these poets—John Wain's *Hurry on Down* and Kingsley Amis's *Lucky Jim*. Scott argued that these new young writers were reflecting, in their work, real changes in British society, and were destined to supersede the rather weary and washed-out custodians of the modernist-bohemian-cosmopolitan high culture tradition which had controlled the literary wet-plate since the Second World War.

The Movement, as it is bared by the despair of the Forties, not much interested in suffering and extremely impatient of poetic sensibility. . . . So it's goodbye to all those rather and little discussions about "how the poet ought to live", and it's goodbye to the little Magazine and the experimental writing. The Movement, as well as being anti-phony, is anti-wet; sceptical, robust, ironic, prepared to be as comfortable as possible. . . . The Movement was thus rather fortuitously christened and launched, but, as Blake Morrison rightly insists, it was not a journalistic invention. Scott's original article caused a stir because it crystallized the hunches and intuitions of many observers of the literary scene that a new generation of writers was emerging with a distinctive collective voice. A couple of years later the reality of the Movement, at least as far as poetry was concerned, was convincingly established by the publication of Robert Conquest's *Five Poets* (1956). This presented a work of nine poets: Elizabeth Jennings, John Halloway, Philip Larkin, Thom Gunn, Kingsley Amis, D. J. Enright, Donald Davie, John Wain and Conquest himself. Conquest's effect, by a terse, cocky confident editorship, was to present this work as "a genuine and healthy poetry of the new period".

Although Conquest did not actu-



Philip Larkin: "of the writers discussed, only Larkin emerges as a writer of real distinction"

ally use the word "Movement" in his introduction, *New Lines* came to be seen as the quintessential Movement anthology, and Al Alvarez certainly treated it as such when he came to launch his own counter-revolutionary anthology, *The New Poetry*, in 1962. (It is, incidentally, significant that Alvarez was unable to identify a new school of native poets, but was obliged to field a rather oddly assorted team of British and American.) The application of the term "Movement" to prose fiction was always more problematical and uncertain, and no one, to my knowledge, ever applied it to the poets. There were certainly connections and overlapping between Movement poetry, strictly defined, and other new writing in the 1950s. The typical Movement poet was a university teacher of lower-middle-class origins living in a provincial city, and the fiction of William Cooper and C. P. Snow could be said to reflect a very similar ethos and milieu. Indeed, Amis acknowledged the seminal influence of Cooper's *Scenes From Provincial Life* (1950), and as a reviewer of new novels in the newspapers, as well as in his own literary practice, Cooper's friend Snow reinforced the Movement's anti-modernist aesthetic. The consciously provincial and anti-bourgeois attitudes expressed in this fiction flowed in to be associated with much rougher, more novelists and plays more aggressively

critical of British society, such as Alan Sillitoe's *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* (1958), John Braine's *Room at the Top* (1957) and John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger* (1956). A new kind of hero, or anti-hero, was hailed and dubbed the Angry Young Man—a journalistic term which proved sufficiently elastic to be stretched around not only characters like Jimmy Porter, Arthur Seaton and Jim Dixon, but also their creators, and finally any literary scene.

Thus two writers as different and mutually unsympathetic as, say, Kingsley Amis and Colin (The Outsider) Wilson, could be bundled into the same category. All this has more to do, perhaps, with the history of the Movement than with the Movement itself. The Movement (and one of the most puritanical in values) has acknowledged, "promotion is of the nature of any artistic movement". It was the achievement of the original Movementers—especially Amis, Wain, Larkin, Davie, Enright, Halloway and Conquest—in starting rolling a small, tightly packed snowball which, as it grew, gathered irresistible momentum, and picked up on its course a good deal of heterogeneous and incongruous matter.

Like all new literary movements, the Movement was essentially

the heavily symbolic and often fully obscure poetry of D. H. Lawrence and other bards of the "New Apocalypse" (neatly parodied by Wain in *Hurry on Down* and in *That Uncertain Feeling*), and, in prose fiction, the sombre spiritual and emotional intensity of Graham Greene, Jim Dixon and, fully recalls "a character in a modern novel. He was feeling his way in him like a sickness of the knowing reader to The *History of the Matter*, though as Blake Morrison observes, Amis carefully ensures that his hero is not caught out dropping the names of the books he has read (still less pretending to have bought a modern novel).

This was part of the deliberate cultivation of the "common touch" by the Movement writers—their refusal to be seen by the conventional cultural tastes and values of the educated bourgeoisie (advancing their preference for jazz over Mozart and madrigals) and their horror of anything that smacked of highbrow affectation or showing off. Their spiritual mentor in this regard was the only literary figure, apart from Empson and Graves, for whom they had much respect—was George Orwell, whose brave, often unpopular stand in the 1930s and 1940s for human decency they looked back at in their youth. And the only literary figure who did not need the advantages of a privileged, cultured background, or to have exotic, unconventional or heroic experiences to write about. A lower-middle-class South London suburb, with no more than a few books in the house, such as I had, was suddenly an almost fashionable background for a young novelist—though not quite as fashionable as a working-class upbringing in a Northern industrial town.

When J. D. Scott's article "In The Movement" appeared in the *Spectator* in the summer of 1954, I was beginning my final year as an undergraduate reading English (only we did not say "reading", we said "doing") at University College, London, and too preoccupied with *Beowulf*, Chaucer, and other classics of English literature to take much notice of contemporary writing. I still cherished rather romantic notions of the life-style appropriate to a writer, and on this account plausibly declined to apply for a State Studentship to do research. When I was subsequently offered a university research studentship, I postponed the decision while I did National Service in the Army. A few weeks of basic training at Catterick convinced me that the academic life had a lot to be said for it, and the longer my National Service (as I saw it) went on, the stronger grew my resolve to return to the university. This was a decision very much in the spirit, if not the letter, of Lucky Jim, and its hero's axiom, "nice things are nicer than nasty things". It also started me on a twin career—as a university student of English and as a novelist—which the Movement, notably in the persons of Amis, Wain and Enright, had established as viable. There had been poet-dons before the Movement, of course—I. A. Richards and William Empson, sipping to mystery but not, if one excludes writers of detective stories, fantasy and historical fiction, novelist-dons.

I whittled away the long boredom of clerking at a Royal Armoured Corps training centre in Dorset by compiling a scrap book of literary cuttings, and by writing the first draft of a novel called *The Picturegoers*, in which scenes of Catholic "ghetto" life were crosscut with vignettes of mass cultural consumption at a seedy suburban cinema. At the time, I reflected the incongruous influences of Graham Greene and Richard Hodgson—whose *The Uses of Literacy* (1957) was, in its Leavisian critical principles and eloquent celebration of provincial working-class life, tangentially related to the Movement. When *The Picturegoers* was published, after some delays, in 1960, among the reviewers who gave it a kind wel-

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Self-absorption in the face of the apocalypse

Trying to Explain: essays by Donald Davie
Corgi New Press, £6.95
ISBN 0 85635 343 4
The Oxford Book of Contemporary Verse 1945-1980
edited by D. J. Enright
Oxford University Press, £7.50 and £3.50
ISBN 0 19 214108 2 and 281268 2
When a writer "collected" poems and a bulky "collected" volume behind him in the past decade, Donald Davie is very much a force to be reckoned with in contemporary letters. His message now is presented rather more explicitly than it used to be, but the content remains the same: we are approaching the end of the world, the end of the cultural breakdown in which standards of art and in "human" and social relations are in grave jeopardy. Davie offers this judgment to help us understand the world we live in. In his own poem "The Feeling of Time" he is running down our culture is very much a "feeling" and like others busy waving standards, his urgency leads us to differences, meeting, contempt (the feeling here towards the world) in a fifteen-year-old poet. Davie's sense of the world is a "feeling" and like others busy waving standards, his urgency leads us to differences, meeting, contempt (the feeling here towards the world) in a fifteen-year-old poet. Davie's sense of the world is a "feeling" and like others busy waving standards, his urgency leads us to differences, meeting, contempt (the feeling here towards the world) in a fifteen-year-old poet.

Trying to Explain: essays by Donald Davie

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BOOKS

Evolution of process-based geomorphology

Process in Geomorphology
edited by Clifford Embleton and John Thornes
Edward Arnold, £16.00 and £8.95
ISBN 0 7131 6243 0 and 6244 9

Geomorphological Processes
by E. Derbyshire, K. J. Gregory and J. R. Halls
Dawson, £10.00 and £6.00
ISBN 0 7129 0833 1 and 0923 0

Man and Environmental Processes
edited by K. J. Gregory and D. E. Walling
Dawson, £10.00 and £6.00
ISBN 0 7129 0834 X and 0922 2

Geomorphology is the study of the landforms of the Earth and, if it is to be more than mere description and classification, it must involve explanation of the way in which landforms evolve. For the past 20 years a serious attempt has been made to found a new approach to geomorphology based on the study of processes. In the traditional way this has evolved through the journal literature, a large number of taught courses, the occasional, rather trendy, presidential address, and now the first crop of textbooks. The road has been a long one for a number of departments have been teaching process courses for more than a decade; yet until now there has been no suitable text. Suddenly there are three contenders!

Although these three texts overlap in various ways, they are strongly contrasting in scope and approach. Embleton and Thornes is a reasonably quantitative book, with formulae on perhaps half its pages, whereas Derbyshire, Gregory and Halls provide a far more descriptive approach—less formulae, but more examples on only 10 per cent of their pages. The third book is rather different, for it consists of 13 chapters by 13 different authors, with introductory and concluding chapters by the editors. These range, well beyond geomorphology, with three chapters on climate, one on hydrology, two on soils, and two on ecosystems. Effectively this provides just half of the book on geomorphological processes, so that the treatment is rather more

condensed than in the other two texts.

Within these broad differences of style and approach, the books have very different allocations of space to the various topics that might be covered. Remarkably only three topics are treated at length in all three books—these are ground level, rivers and coasts. In part this may result from a planned division of topics between the two Dawson books, but even the Dawson totals show major differences from the Arnold book.

The Arnold book has strong claims for its scope, its rather more quantitative approach (where that is found attractive) and perhaps most of all for its emphasis on the fundamental physics of materials and the stresses to which they are subjected. Yet it is not written at a consistent level, and the ambitious attempt to deal with the fluvial processes is not matched by any similar approach to aeolian transport, despite its effective treatment in the published literature. The chapters on coasts is not only far less qualitative than most of the others but it is also far less comprehensive. Considering the close relationship between contemporary process and modern geomorphology, the amount of material on the world's coastlines is surprising.

More positively, the book is by no means easy to follow, and deserves to be read through very carefully by any instructor thinking of adopting it as a course text. For some it will prove ideal—there is still plenty left to teach, and explain more fully. Few will find the approach or balance of the mass movement chapter acceptable, and many will seek to establish the relative importance of the many processes described in the book. Some will try to relate processes to landform more clearly, whereas others will want to spend more time examining the timescales over which these processes operate—there is more here on magnitude than on frequency.

It will not be surprising if many students find the Arnold book too demanding, and too far removed from the real world towards which the physical basis of geography must look. For such students the Dawson books will be useful, for they are easier to follow, and the

approach of the book by Gregory and Walling would fit in well with the applied trend of many modern physical geography courses. However, its neglect of glaciation and of wind action makes it of little use to a geomorphology course: here the competitor for Embleton and Thornes, must be Derbyshire, Gregory and Halls. This is a bit indulgent in terms of space devoted to coasts (though understandably so, as already noted), and the emphasis on the hydrological behaviour of river basins has led to a neglect of the erosional processes on basin slopes. This will need supplementing in many courses. The glacial chapter lays heavy emphasis on sedimentation, and there is hardly any comment on where the sediment comes from, nor are volumes quantified.

These volumes prompt reappraisal of process geomorphology, and its place in contemporary teaching. Both of the books concerned solely with geomorphology make some comment on the process-landform link. It is, of course, quite proper that on grounds of length alone, neither makes any real attempt to say much about the landforms themselves. Embleton and Thornes clearly state that the mechanics of processes "is the starting point for investigating the variation of landforms through space and time" and they explore the concepts of process domains and of stability/instability as part of the link. Derbyshire, Gregory and Halls are content to note that "processes are the means rather than the ends of geomorphological enquiry" but their concluding review is limited to demonstrating how far current knowledge of processes has remedied "the deficiencies of the past".

One interesting aspect of these texts is the extent to which quantities are included and quantitative relationships are explored. The expression of the mechanics of various processes in algebraic form is only part of a more precise understanding of geomorphological processes. Even if the equations are wholly and universally valid, and even if some of the constants are known (and are constant!) we

will often lack adequate knowledge of the variation over time and space of the driving forces themselves. The work done by a river in terms of solute, suspended and bedload transport, requires field measurement, and not one of these values can yet be predicted by theory with enough precision to supplement field data. Indeed, the many possible responses to changes in liquid discharge in terms of channel form suggest that some stochastic element will always remain.

The trouble here is that our field data are so few, and the environment so variable, that tables of values (for example, of rates of surface lowering) tend to be no more than scattered rather meaningless numbers. We attempt to build on them, or to relate one source or area to another, we would soon discover a great deal of disagreement. This problem of data is an inescapable one in writing in a general way about geomorphological processes, and it is surprising that none of these books comments on the problem.

As an example we may take the process of creep. It is not included at all in Gregory and Walling, no doubt, because it operates at too slow a speed to cause any problems for man. On page 70 of Derbyshire, Gregory and Halls it is "very slight" (from Rapp, N. Sweden) but on page 63 we are told it accounts for 99 per cent of the erosion in one Oregon basin. In Brunsden's chapter in the Arnold book, table 5.5 shows Rapp's value to be the second highest quoted there, although the highest value in the table is 122, and 2500 cm³/cm²/yr quoted in table 5.4. Should we conclude that none of the authors quoted in table 5.5 succeeded in measuring a process of any geomorphological significance? Sadly Brunsden makes no comment.

A related problem is the inclusion of dubious data or relationships without adequate cautioning comment. A good case of this is the brave, though entirely imaginary, diagrams Beldier produced in 1950 in his well known attempt at a climatic geomorphology. These appear in both geomorphology

books. But more serious errors are introduced by Derbyshire, Gregory and Halls, for their table 2.7 (page 99) uses data dominated by one "variation" by climatic region. Curiously the same book succeeds in distorting another data set, Rapp's Kirkvegg measurements, by quoting them in tonnes/km²/yr, ignoring the distance moved downslope.

In exploring the limitations of these texts, we are of course exploring the limitations of our current knowledge of geomorphological processes. Given their very different approaches, all three books are remarkably successful in demonstrating that we are all in a position to teach this new geomorphology in a coherent way. Yet I urge the teachers and texts alike should stress the extreme difficulties we face, and the number of unexplained, but extremely probable, generalizations that abound in the treatment of world-wide variations in rates and styles of geomorphological processes. We have need to remind ourselves of the continuing feedback effects between landform and process, such that the control exercised by landform over process may be stronger than that exerted by the processes over the landform they create.

That in turn will bring us up against the fact that steep slopes affected by landsliding are by no means as common as gentle slopes, and that most of our rivers, for all the interest of their channel cross-sections and their bedforms, transport far more material in solution than as a solid load. Some processes are indeed important because they are unusual or exotic, but it is important that we appreciate that in order to achieve a balanced view of this dynamic Earth. Even an approximate ordering of processes in terms of the work they accomplish will not be easy, but it is an essential step in establishing a fully relevant process-based geomorphology.

Keith Clayton

Keith Clayton is professor of environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia.



Ploughmen in about 1880. Taken from *The English Village*, by Richard Muir, published by Thames and Hudson at £8.50.

Extra-terrestrial topographies

Planetary Geology
by John Guest, Paul Butterworth, John Murray and William O'Donnell
David & Charles, £7.95
ISBN 0 7133 7339 6

To say that this is largely a picture book is no disparagement. The photographs are no ordinary pictures, giving as they do, remarkable views of the surface features of our nearest planetary neighbours, and accompanied as they are by a well-written descriptive and explanatory text. It must have been exceptionally difficult for the authors, in selecting from the vast quantities of photographic material available from the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, those ones which not only show the most spectacular, but also best illustrate the variety of topographies exhibited in different parts of the planets.

Thus, for the Moon and Mercury, the authors have selected images which show the most dramatic features of these celestial bodies, and which also illustrate the variety of topographies exhibited in different parts of the planets.

craters, enormous ridged basins, sinuous ridges and valleys, mountain ranges, lava flows and volcanic craters. Many show similar features, but in addition some very large volcanoes and a number of morphological effects which are probably associated with the action of winds, water and ice, and which are absent from the Moon. The quality of photographic reproduction is good.

The page of text accompanying each page of photographs is largely devoted to describing the features shown, and then to a brief explanation of the processes which have shaped them. The authors have done a very good job of this, and the book is a very good introduction to the study of planetary geology.

It is now just ten years since the first manned landing on the Moon, and a good time at which to take a look at what has been learned from that and subsequent space exploration. The authors have done a very good job of this, and the book is a very good introduction to the study of planetary geology.

The book is a very good introduction to the study of planetary geology, and it is a very good introduction to the study of planetary geology. It is a very good introduction to the study of planetary geology, and it is a very good introduction to the study of planetary geology.

BOOKS

The whole urban fabric

The Good City: a study of urban development and policy in Britain
by David Donson with Paul Soto
Hodgson Educational, £12.50 and £5.50
ISBN 0 435 85216 7 and 85217 5

A lot of us daydream about living in a private income-free Hyde Park home, or more than a semi in a house. But what do we really know about the differences in urban life within Britain, about work, housing, the education of children and the chances to advance our status in satisfying ways? While the books fill with studies of the public economy or housing and support in particular cities, truly interdisciplinary and comparative work on the whole urban fabric and the decline of staple manufacturing, the loss of skilled jobs, the effects of staying on at school, the large increases of female employment, the changes in service jobs—all set against the backdrop of long-term decline and restructuring of the British economy and the belated attempts by the state to intervene.

It is both appropriate and ironic that this study should originate at the Centre for Environmental Research, an outstanding research institute which has recently been created by Mr Heseltine. The questions posed by the authors are broad and challenging: is urban industrial history mirrored in urban economic structure? How does this relate to living conditions? Do cities distribute benefits among their citizens more equitably than others? Do poorer people do better in certain kinds of towns and why? What of schools and can we do to alter these patterns?

Donson and Soto embark on this quest by sketching the postwar history of British urban policy, the liberal elitist tradition on which it was based, the search for a Brave New World of social justice, prosperity and happiness. They continue with the breakdown of this consensus beginning in the late 1960s, as economic decline and social stress became more evident, and show how this forced "urban managers" into more responsive, less paternalistic roles. This expressed itself in public participation and the search for more finely-tuned policies directed at giving more help to those areas in our cities which are most in need. But during the 1970s it became clear that a lot of people want to oppose policies rather than participate, that local planners are often powerless in the face of economic and social degradation since the problems are not local in origin but rather "the imprint of urban scale of national trends in the economy".

But the authors also identify a "Middle England" of towns where the Shared Space: the two circuits of the urban economy in underdeveloped countries.
by Milton Santos
Dawson, £8.50 and £4.95
ISBN 0 415 79660 5 and 79670 2

Not a pity that this book was not published when it was first written, apparently in 1971. For the Milton Santos would have made a highly original contribution to the study of urban poverty in the Third World cities. But the book was published in French, in 1975 and is only now available in English, adapted in this translation by Chris Gerry, who has himself made a notable contribution to this field of study.

Milton Santos is a geographer, professor at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil though much of his work was written while he enjoyed substantial spells at the Sorbonne, Paris, Harvard, and the University of Toronto. His earlier work was devoted to the World Urbanization and with Brazil in particular. This work is subtitled 'The two circuits of the urban economy in underdeveloped countries—the "two circuits" being the formal and informal sectors in current Anglo-Saxon parlance.'

Santos is rightly critical of the approach, conventional in the 1960s, which saw the two circuits of the urban economy as operating independently of each other, each with its own logic. He then describes the mechanism of their interdependence, and how the two circuits are linked by a complex web of social and economic relationships. The upper circuit is that of monopolistic multinational companies operating in harness with the Third World states. The lower circuit—of small-scale manufacturing petty trade and services—is discussed in terms of modes of entry and exit, and the micro-economy. Santos acknowledges the apparent dynamism of this circuit but predicts its stagnation. A final part discusses the spatial form of the city in terms of the two circuits—they share the same space—and is critical of earlier theories of urban development.

Santos touches on most of the themes that have emerged during the past decade in the debates about urban poverty. He is a structuralist, presenting a broad scheme of universal development, but he is not a social determinist. Keith Morgan, International Labour Organization mission to Kenya focused on the informal sector, emphasizing its potential for development, and thus countering earlier belief that it was unproductive and a waste of resources. A few studies have attempted to define it precisely, but it has remained elusive. As the decade progressed efforts were directed towards establishing the links between the formal and informal sectors. A final part discusses the informal sector activity as a form of petty commodity production applied their classical texts in relating this to the dominant capitalist system.

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To tackle such large questions Santos rather formidably number-crunches must be done and the book is based on the statistical method of "cluster analysis" developed for urban studies by Richard Weber, also at the CES. This technique, using detailed census data, enables one to create "clusters" of towns which are very similar within but as dissimilar between groups as possible. The resulting 13 clusters have connotations such as "heavy engineering and coal", "residential suburbs" and "inner contributions"; these are the basis for all subsequent analysis.

Chapter five summarizes the major changes which have been seen in the labour market, the decline of staple manufacturing, the loss of skilled jobs, the effects of staying on at school, the large increases of female employment, the changes in service jobs—all set against the backdrop of long-term decline and restructuring of the British economy and the belated attempts by the state to intervene.

The focus then shifts to urban problems themselves, to the interrelationships between demographic, economic, educational, housing and transport factors, neatly expressed in a structural diagram. This demonstrates a number of connections which are intuitively expected, for example, the positive links between industrial structure and social status, and less obvious ones like the correlation between sickness and unemployment, that the age of 45 is an important watershed dividing old from young towns.

It is disturbing to find that towns are divided along class lines not only middle class from working class but also that the more prosperous working class is segregated within Britain from the less skilled and poorer working classes. Included in the labour market is the social status of the working class, which is defined in terms of their relationships, reflecting our belief that opportunities for paid work are strongly related to housing, education and much else.

The taxonomy which follows strikingly demonstrates two British cities, mainly in the north... and the more prosperous white collar towns, mainly in the south... This national view is repeated at the urban scale within the large conurbations—inner city and outer city—and shows "a polarization along geographical, industrial and class lines". This is explored more deeply in chapter nine. But the authors also identify a "Middle England" of towns where

work has expanded, where children do better at school and where bureaucrats are more innovative and liberal. These are the Lutons, Sloughs, Peterboroughs, Coventrys and Swindons of this world; what they lack in *Good Food Guide* entries they make up for in "ladders" which enable people to get on. It is towns like these which point the finding that educational attainment, even at 11 years old, seems to be more related to the children's prospects than their social class or educational spending.

Those who run these innovative public services however—the direct care of education, housing and social services—have tended to live and work in "nice places, prosperous, growing southern counties and middle-sized towns not too far from London and Birmingham." They have not seen much of "England's more sombre urban areas (or had) first-hand experience of this country's most intractable urban problems". Thus may the two Britains be reinforced.

What then is the Good City? Not surprisingly it is a growing prosperous place which does seem to distribute the "goods" in ways which are fairest, i.e. most generous to those who are least well off. They can be created from scratch (the new towns) or be rescue-and-revival operations like Swindon or Peterborough. But what of London's Docklands, of Moss Side or Waverley, of Doncaster and Soto have guarded hopes for "there is nothing inherently destructive about the towns themselves" but almost all the initiatives will have to come from determined and innovative public investment programmes; which are not so easy to do so.

This Herculean task has been undertaken by events. It was started seven years ago and is based on information which is now 10 years out of date. Much of the analysis depends on "cities" defined on outdated maps, and the micro-economy and this frequently leads to some curious results. Large questions are left untouched in this relatively short and well-written book (not least, where will the Good City be going next? Will it be down? This is a stimulating book for the much more profound and up-to-date investigation which is surely and sorely needed.

J. Brian McLoughlin

J. Brian McLoughlin is a freelance teacher, researcher and writer.

Sub-systems of the urban economy

Shared Space: the two circuits of the urban economy in underdeveloped countries.
by Milton Santos
Dawson, £8.50 and £4.95
ISBN 0 415 79660 5 and 79670 2

Not a pity that this book was not published when it was first written, apparently in 1971. For the Milton Santos would have made a highly original contribution to the study of urban poverty in the Third World cities. But the book was published in French, in 1975 and is only now available in English, adapted in this translation by Chris Gerry, who has himself made a notable contribution to this field of study.

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Peter Lloyd is professor of social anthropology at the University of Sussex.

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Broadening horizons

Landforms and Landscape in Africa
by J. M. Pritchard
Edward Arnold, £6.95
ISBN 0 7131 0204 7

This book follows hard on the heels of Buckle's *Landforms in Africa: an introduction to geomorphology*, published by Longman last year. It too is aimed specifically at students studying geomorphology in schools and colleges in Africa. The main additional feature of Pritchard's book is the incorporation of a map reading section with 16 full-page extracts of maps depicting absorbing examples of a range of relief types.

Each map extract is accompanied by directions to the relevant parts of the general text, and a sequence of exercise questions is listed. For example, there are relief maps of streams dissecting uplands in Malawi and a volcanic area in Tanzania. The adjustment of drainage patterns to geological structures is illustrated with a map from Ghana. The treatment in the main text is sufficiently elementary to rely heavily on pictures. However, it is striking that only three of over a hundred photographs included provide a contrast with Buckle's

book in which many figures enliven the landscapes.

The present book might serve its stated purpose better if African students could identify with people in the foregrounds. The prettily frocked and posed figure admiring a Tanzanian waterfall takes not even a small step in this direction. For students in North America and Britain, however, the book is like Buckle's in offering some enlargement of geographical horizon.

This opportunity is not restricted to geography, as many students of specialists within earth and environmental sciences first encounter the subject matter of their later specialist choice in introductory school courses in physical geography. An attractive feature of the book, therefore, apart from the maps and scenic views, is the presence of diagrams illustrating specifically African features, such as the various erosion levels in Uganda or the influence of varying rock outcrops on the long, winding profiles of the rivers Niger and Zaire (Congo). Examples of laterite, the indurated surface layer of highly weathered rock materials rich in iron, manganese and aluminium compounds will be particularly welcomed.

The selection of diagrams could be improved with more geographical length as well as breadth, as the regional weighting is heavily to the south of the Sahara. Also, nearly half the diagrams could hardly be said to be of humdrum type, which are absent from Africa. More diagrams like that showing the contrast between seasonal sequences of two years' discharge of the Tana River in Kenya, based on actual observed data, are essential.

Alistair F. Pitty

Alistair Pitty is lecturer in geography at the University of Leeds.

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BOOKS

Environmental degradation

The work takes its inspiration from the year 1976, for much of

by the discussion of earthquakes, a subject of direct concern to both parties. Whitrow deals with plate

climatologist to produce a more balanced version of what is nevertheless still a valuable book.

The first part describes the

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THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Ecosystem Succession

272 pages, 60 illustrations, June 1980

Peter J. Smith

Peter J. Smith is reader in earth sciences at the Open University.

This earth of majesty

W. M. Davis had, of course, writ-

The second way in which this study lacks unity results from the approach. Both authors mention the many various researchers whose work has helped elucidate the sociological history of the regime described, "quoting something of their studies and of their conclusions. They, the authors, follow this summary of previous contributions with judicious comments on the probable veracity of this or that interpretation. As a result, the work is less than a flowing, deadly, the scholarship, clear English and illustrations, and erant knowledge

relationships with human geography. There has been much talk in recent years of independent science of geography, independent of geography. To reach an independent audience, as wide as reached by the older geographers, there is no doubt that morphology needs geography, not only as a subject, but as a discipline. It is, in fact, a discipline that requires geomorphologists.

E. M. Fyfe
 E. M. Fyfe is Reader in Geography at King's College, London.

The new German Republic

live reference is made to the need for reform of the federal statute. One of the most intractable problems inherited from the occupation regime has been the wide disparity in the size and wealth between the Länder, and it remains unsolved. In the subsequent chapters there is a feeling that Dr Wild relies too heavily on cold statistics and official reports, failing to sense the German's own perception of a change in the new geography of Europe since the Second World

out great depth. There is no doubt that numerous strains and stresses in German society have been detrimental by the highly unsatisfactory age-sex balance in the population as a result of the war. The war and its adverse wartime changes were founded on already unfortunate developments inherited from 1914-1918 and the interwar traumas. A lot more could also be usefully said on developments since the mid-1950s. There were notable age-sex differences and contrasts in family structure between the West Ger-

ful and welcome text that should find a place in any course on Western Europe, Germany, or for that matter, on broader systematic issues such as regional planning. The paperback edition would be welcome.

Roy E. H. Mellor

R. E. H. Mellor is professor of geography at the University of Aberdeen.

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by P. Tsch. Wichita State University, Kansas

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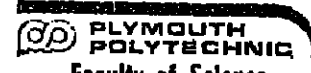
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Holidays and Accommodation

Fellowships and Studentships continued



PLYMOUTH POLYTECHNIC

Faculty of Science

Department of

Environmental Sciences

SRC RESEARCH

STUDENTSHIP

INPUT-OUTPUT MODELLING

OF A LAKE ECOSYSTEM

NEAR HELSTON,

CORNWALL

The Science Research Council is

preparing this year to offer, to a

selected candidate, a research

studentship for the Department

of Environmental Sciences,

Plymouth Polytechnic, for research

into the above topic.

Applications are therefore invited

from graduates in Biology, Chem-

istry, Environmental Science or any

other discipline relevant to the topic

involving computer modelling of

ecosystems. Final year students ex-

pecting to graduate with a good

degree this year will also be con-

sidered.

Applicants should have a strong

background in computing and a know-

ledge of the principles of ecologi-

cal modelling. The successful can-

didate will be expected to register

with the C.N.A.A. for a higher

degree.

Application forms to be returned

by Friday 10th June, 1980, may be

obtained with further particulars

from the Personnel Officer, Ply-

mouth Polytechnic, Drake Circus,

Plymouth PL4 8AA.

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SOUTHAMPTON

THE UNIVERSITY

Institute of Cryogenics

CASE Studentships

SRC research studentships with

industrial sponsorship are available

for the following projects:

(1) Development of supercon-

ducting magnetic separation for

removal of pollutants from

radioactive waste.

(2) Study of thermodynamics

and heat transfer of helium

in contact with its high speed

rotating frames at up to 100 m/sec.

In excess of 100 m/sec.

towards the construction of a

superconducting AC

generator.

Applicants should have a good

degree in Science or Engineer-

ing. Further details from Dr. R.

G. Saurbeck, Director.

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ROBERT GORDON'S INSTITUTE

OF TECHNOLOGY, ABERDEEN

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

LECTURERS

Full-time, and one temporary, full-time. Hon-

ours graduates required with suitable indus-

trial experience.

Salary range £4,754 to £9,020 per annum

(under review).

Assistance with removal expenses.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

STUDIES

LECTURER—Business Studies—

Economics

Honours degree in Economics, Academic/

industrial/commercial experience desirable.

Duties: Participate in operation and develop-

ment of degree, postgraduate/post-experience

courses. Preference given to applicants with

special expertise in one or more of: Econo-

metrics, Managerial Economics, Financial

Economics.

Salary range £4,754 to £9,020 per annum

(under review).

Assistance with removal expenses.

Forms and details from Secretary, Robert

Gordon's Institute of Technology, Schoolhill,

Aberdeen AB9 1FR (0224 574511).

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Colleges and Institutes of Higher Education



Roehampton

Institute

A federation of Digby Stuart, Froebel,

Southlands and Whitelands Colleges

Degree courses offered by the Roehampton Institute

in combined studies leading, at present, to B.A., B.Sc.

or B.Ed. degrees of the University of London.

LECTURERS II/SENIOR LECTURERS IN PHYSICAL

EDUCATION

The MOVEMENT STUDIES DEPARTMENT of the Institute

seeks the following from September 1, 1980:

(A) **FULL-TIME TENURED APPOINTMENT**

A full-time Lecturer in Physical Education is required by

September, 1980. The Lecturer will be required to

specialise in exercise physiology and bio-mechanics and

take charge of the teaching of swimming. Assistance

with games with Professional Studies would be an

advantage.

(B) **FULL-TIME FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENT**

Required for ONE YEAR only. The successful applicant

will be expected to make a major contribution to games

and their associated biomechanical principles. Assistance

will also be required in some of the following areas:

Sports Psychology, Athletics, Swimming, Outdoor

Activities.

(C) **PART-TIME FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENT**

Required for 0.7 FTE for ONE YEAR only. Applicant

should have good experience of teaching the theory and

practice of Gymnastics and Tennis. Other areas of

expertise would be an advantage.

The successful applicants for all three posts will be

expected to take responsibility for some professional

studies and for teaching practice supervision.

Salary (full-time): Burnham FE Scale (£4,851 to £9,039

plus London Allowance £600) under review.

Closing date for receipt of applications: June 24, 1980.

Application forms from: R. A. Fennell, Assistant Secretary,

Roehampton Institute of Higher Education, Richmond

go to the library and, with the help of a trained intermediary, summon up by telephone-linked computers more than a hundred data bases containing sources relevant to my current research and writing interests, undertake interactive searches among these sources and order print and microfiche copies of the items I need.



The development of the Post Office's Prestel makes up-to-date information on educational opportunities and services available through the domestic television receiver. The work of the Adult Literacy Support Services Fund has made broadcasters more aware of the possibilities and implications in terms of preparation, staffing and tie-ups with other local and national agencies.

The telephone has been used as the basis of individual tutorial systems (and research has been done on its efficiency for this purpose). "Telephones" linked to tape recorders enable one-to-one enquiries from potential students and staff to be stored and dealt with. "Hands off" conference telephones, units and miniature switchboards have replaced the traditional different coloured hand sets, their

"Quitto right! Let me make a note: Dawn—Economics. Well, how about you, Sheila? Got an answer for us here?"

"Yes. When do we have to do the essays for this course, could we have the window open again, and where's the ashtray?"

"OK. Let's take it from there. Now, supposing

should have checked my facts, I am glad Martin Warner takes my fun in good part, and I thank him. Sir Kenneth Dover and Professor Allen THAMES, May 23) for setting my error, so magisterially correct.

But I suspect that as so often the Greeks have the first and last laugh, in what other language are

Yours faithfully,
GREG BROOKS,
School of Education,
Leeds University.

Letters for publication should be as short as possible and should be written on one side of the paper only. The editor reserves the right to cut or amend them, if necessary.

the standard of teaching in our universities. Its evidence suggests that some of us are not performing adequately the job we are primarily paid for doing. Does not that suggest that our terms of employment should be rewritten to include some minimum standard of competence in teaching? Should we not be more accountable to our institutions and our students for a proper per-

While Ngabo Crequar is correct in focusing upon the problem that might be created by the hypothetical closure of universities, is not the real issue what will be done for those of us who survive?

Yours faithfully,
ALEX MAIN,
 Strathclyde University.

of level funding down the grants system. First, there are practical problems, such as how to recover loans from graduates who emigrate.

Assuming such difficulties could be ironed out, there remains the question of how much money would be saved in the early years of any headstart is likely that costs would actually increase

Theoretical points about the relative wealth of graduates compared to the relative poverty of some taxpayers are not enough to justify changes which might have a direct effect on a higher education system which is in an state to resist unnecessary upheavals.

such a country is easier to deal with when a substantial proportion of the population appears to be low sufferers. I cannot help feeling that, with the uses to which telephone is now being put, it is increasingly becoming a nuisance. The educational uses of the telephone are only just beginning to be exploited. I can (and do) see

Breaking off a face to face conversation to seize the receiver, however trivial the subject of call, is itself, of course, a discursive habit which I find hard to overcome.

Sorry. Just heard the phoning downstairs. Coming, coming!

that telephone time is scarce, and that the instrument should be used only as a last resort. So when, as recently, a friendly caller from

The danger of level funding compounded by the near collapse of the discretionary awards system persuaded some unlikely forces to consider the introduction of loans as a means to redistribute the available resources more widely. With the desire for public expenditure cuts as strong as ever and long-standing proponents of

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on of the student population
endanger overall pumbers,
theoretical points about the life-
wealth of graduates compared
the relative poverty of some tax-
payers are not enough to justify
changes which might have a drastic
effect on a higher education system
which is in all states to thousands
necessary upheavals.

When a substantial proportion of the population appear to be self-supporters, I cannot help feeling with the uses to which the money is now being put, it will possibly become a nuisance. The educational uses of the money are only just beginning to be exploited. I can (and do) now

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tention to seize the receiver.
...over trivial subject of the
...is itself, of course, a discour-
...habit which I find hard to
...come.
...cry. Just heard the phone
...ng downstairs. Coming, com-